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Regular Meeting Minutes June 12, 2019

I. PARLIAMENTARY ITEMS

- The June 12, 2019 general meeting of the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group was called to order by Chairman Don Taylor at 6:30 PM.
- **Board members present:** Norma Clark, Daniel Heller, Brian Helmich, Ken Horsley, Ari Isaak, Fred Lindahl, Darlene Love, Deborah Sharpe and Don Taylor.
- **Board members not present:** Bill Adair, Elvia Sandoval, Ralph Teyssier, Julian Villegas and Kelly Waggonner.
- Brian Helmich was selected by drawn lot to fill the role of acting Secretary for this meeting.
- **Agenda Modifications:** Don Taylor proposed addition of an Information Item to the night's meeting agenda enabling discussion of California Senate Bill 330.
- **Approval of Agenda:** **Approved unanimously**, without objection, to include addition of an Information Item discussing California Senate Bill 330.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Don Taylor moved for approval of the May 8, 2019 meeting minutes. **The vote to approve was unanimous.**
- **Treasurer's Report** – Darlene Love reported a bank balance of \$386.61 as of June 1, 2019.

II. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNITY FORUM

○ **Ron Anderson (audience)**

- SDG&E removed pole-mounted transformers and top portions of utility poles in western Talmadge today as part of the 3HH Utilities Undergrounding project.
- There is community frustration that Cox and AT&T have, thus far, not been similarly visibly active. It is important that AT&T and Cox’s remaining portions of the undergrounding project take place before the stormwater project and associated repaving, which are already scheduled to take place within this calendar year. Sanna Loando will reach out to City staff to confirm timing and sequencing and report back to KTPG with the results.
- The City’s project point of contact Brienne Busby is unresponsive by email. Sanna Loando will reach out to ensure better coordination with the community is provided going forward.
- KTPG’s Undergrounding Subcommittee was asked to actively track the project’s progress and ensure city responds to residents’ questions.

○ **Sanna Loando, representing District 9 Council member Georgette Gómez:**

- The KTPG Board was provided with a written *Statement from Council President Georgette Gómez on the City Council’s vote earlier today to approve the City of San Diego Fiscal Year 2020 Budget*, attached hereto as Appendix A. The statement provides a summary of items Councilmember Gómez was able to add to the Mayor’s FY 2020 City Budget by amendment.
- The KTPG Board was provided with a written, signed Memorandum from Council President Georgette Gómez to Mayor Kevin Faulconer, titled *Ensuring Community Input and Preserving the Character of our Communities in the Future Installation of Wireless Communications Facilities (WCF)*, attached hereto as Appendix B.
- A briefing was held with City department heads regarding Get It Done performance analytics relevant to District 9, which accounts for 17% of all reports submitted citywide. District 9 has 2.1% of its reports remaining in an open status, which is a lower figure than the citywide average. Two key departments responsible for District 9 open-status reports are Environmental Services (ESD) and Transportation and Storm Water (TSW). ESD has just been funded to hire two additional dispatchers to process incoming requests, which is anticipated to ease its current inspection backlog. TSW identifies a work evaluation backlog as responsible for its 4% District 9 open-status reports.
- A workshop between City staff and members of the Community Planners Committee (CPC) was held on May 23, 2019 to obtain input on proposed updates to Land Development Code related to Small Cell Wireless Communication Facilities (SC-WCF). City staff recommended Community Planning Groups each work with their respective staff community planners to “make specific aesthetic standards that can guide these applications.”

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNITY FORUM (cont'd)

Sanna Loando, representing District 9 Council member Georgette Gómez: (cont'd)

- A Planning Commission hearing was held June 6, 2019 in connection with proposed Land Development Code updates related to SC-WCF. Commissioners recommended including language in the Land Development Code to make certain special accommodations for potential historic districts for the purpose of ensuring the City preserves the character of those neighborhoods. Because Council District 9 does not staff the Planning Commission, it is not yet able to publicly take any position regarding the Commission's recommendation. However, to show support for the interests of District 9's communities, and in particular, its historic communities, reference was made to the Memorandum attached as Appendix B, in which Councilmember Gómez called for City staff to work closely with communities to include community residents in the general process of updating Land Development Code and other regulations pertaining to SC-WCF.
- The City Council's Land Use and Housing Committee heard the proposed updates to the Land Development Code regarding SC-WCF in its June 12 meeting. It wants City staff to continue working diligently to integrate the Planning Commission's recommendations before the matter is brought before the full City Council on July 23. Councilmember Gómez invites interested members of the community to attend meeting and provide public testimony to the City Council before its members vote on any related item.
- City staff has confirmed Fairmount Avenue between Aldine Drive and Interstate 8 will be repaved beginning in mid-June. City staff is coordinating with Caltrans staff regarding scheduling of ramp closures to enable the repaving work. Ron Anderson asked why the project does not continue on Fairmount past Aldine to Meade Avenue, as that segment needs repaving. Sanna will inquire with City staff. Brian Helmich asked whether the paving will include the Aldine ramps in addition to the freeway ramps. Sanna is unsure and will check on both this and the community's request to continue the paving on to Meade Avenue. Ann Burnett-Troisi asked for confirmation that the repaving is to be an asphalt overlay and not just a slurry coat seal, which seems inadequate to restore the condition of the road to an appropriate level of service. Sanna will check and answer back.
- Public Works engineers have confirmed there will be an upcoming meeting with District 9 staff, Mayor's office staff, and the community to share a final design for the 49th and Adams traffic circle splitter islands project. The City has elected to remove optional signs from its prior proposed design and the Talmadge Maintenance Assessment District has authorized funds to apply rock blanket treatment to the splitter islands and use decorative signposts for required project signs. A date for the meeting has not yet been set, but the City wants to share its final design soon so the project can then immediately go to bid and construction can begin one month later.
- The Mayor's office has allocated a) \$150,000 to the Police Department to create a dockless mobility enforcement program to reduce scooter violations and improve safety, b) \$150,000 to create the position of a mobility program coordinator to integrate scooter enforcement into the Get It Done system, c) \$350,000 to develop new applications related to scooters, and d) \$250,000 to enable painting of new corrals for dockless mobility vehicles, initially downtown, but eventually elsewhere.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNITY FORUM (cont'd)

Sanna Loando, representing District 9 Council member Georgette Gómez: (cont'd)

- Norma Clark asked about the large increase in crime in Kensington and Talmadge over the last year, as recently reported by KPBS and what Councilmember Gómez's role is in responding to that type of problem. Sanna Loando referred questions to Terry Hoskins, SDPD Community Relations Officer for the 820s beats service area which includes both Kensington and Talmadge.
- Sanna highlighted the councilmember's support of local investment in after-school programs.

III. NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

- **Information Item** – George Palermo has resigned from the Board for personal reasons.
 - Don Taylor announced he plans to appoint a replacement member at the July 10, 2019 KTPG meeting.
 - Brian Helmich noted that, prior to the resignation, by eligibility roles the KTPG Board's Kensington/Talmadge role distribution nearly exactly reflected the current 40% Kensington / 60% Talmadge population distribution of the KTPG boundary area. Accordingly, as the vacated seat was held by a Talmadge resident, Helmich stated an expectation, and strongly urged, that the Chair appoint another Talmadge resident to fill that vacancy, to remain consistent with both the voiced will expressed by the eligible voters in KTPG's most recent elections held March 19, 2019, and the requirements of Article 3, Section 2 of KTPG's bylaws, which reads, in part,

“Council Policy 200-24 requires that voting members of the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group shall, to the extent possible, be representative of the various geographic sections of the community”,
 - Deborah Sharpe remarked that it is the prerogative of KTPG's Chair to propose appointments. To that point, Brian Helmich reminded the entire board, pursuant to Article 4, Section 2 of KTPG's bylaws, the Board members themselves are ultimately responsible for the appointment, as any appointment made by the Chair is subject to a majority vote confirmation by the voting members of the planning group, and therefore each voting Board member should earnestly consider his or her obligations to abide by KTPG's bylaws under Article 3, Section 2, and to faithfully represent the will of the community's eligible voters who determined the KTPG Board's distribution of positions.

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (cont'd)

- **Action Item** – Support/Do Not Support that the City adopt supplemental Small-Cell (4G/5G) considerations/requirements for installations controlled by the Land Development Code:
 - 1) That planned installations in historic districts and potential historic districts receive in-depth aesthetic considerations to minimize the visual impact on those sensitive districts consistent with the standards established for same by the United States Secretary of the Interior;
 - 2) That alleys in historic districts and potential historic districts be given priority over street parkways/rights-of-way to minimize the aesthetic impact in these sensitive districts;
 - 3) That the Wireless Communication Facility (WCF) Guidelines be closely tied to the Land Development Code by incorporating it into the Land Development Manual;
 - 4) That the City require communications companies to provide City staff with a “Master Plan” for small cell installations citywide for evaluation and coordination by City staff which can be shared with community planning groups and the public; and
 - 5) Seeking a Specific Plan Update/Amendment for Kensington-Talmadge to address concerns regarding SC-WCF installations.
- Don Taylor represented KTPG at the May 23, 2019 workshop between City staff and fifteen members of the Community Planners Committee (CPC) related to proposed updates to Land Development Code related to SC-WCF. The Chair reported thirteen of the planning groups are eager to see SC-WCF installations move forward quickly and that only KTPG and the Mission Beach Precise Planning Board expressed serious concerns. City staff recommended each community planning group with concerns should work quickly to identify specific aesthetic standards that can be incorporated to guide SC-WCF applications in those community areas. The Chair emphasized the importance of speed in getting such work underway to whatever point possible before the Twelfth Update to the Land Development Code takes effect following approval by the City Council, as it is anticipated wireless providers or their contracted service providers are standing ready to submit many SC-WCF applications promptly at that time.
- Ari Isaak declared a conflict and recused himself from discussion of this single agenda item in any capacity as a member of the KTPG board and voting on same in such a capacity.

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (cont'd)

- Brian Helmich expressed a process concern that KTPG as a body is tasked with a responsibility to evaluate individual project proposals brought before it, and that its Board (of which no Board members have prior SC-WCF pole design experience) should be very cautious about developing formal, detailed, specific design standards that could have the ultimate effect of limiting KTPG's ability to not support any potential future design proposals which may conform to those developed standards, but not in fact conform to the Board's actual intent when developing those standards. The concern was similarly expressed by Norma Clark. Deborah Sharpe shared she feels she and others in the community do have appropriate design expertise for establishing detailed, specific design standards for freestanding SC-WCF installations and prefers KTPG should be in a role of proposing designs for review rather than reviewing design proposals. Don Taylor underscored the urgency of timing relative to anticipated City Council approval of the Twelfth Update to the Land Development Code, and that rather than developing any design that is specific, a better description may be to set a goal of designing broad criteria to establish basic acceptable aesthetic parameters for SC-WCF installations, such as diameter, fluting, number of luminaires, placement.
- Comments from the audience:
 - This seems like it should be done in concert with ongoing utility undergrounding projects. Chair responded that the two are separate items, and another Board member stated that the timing of the two are incompatible.
 - The City's WCF Guidelines already require the style of new freestanding SC-WCFs in public rights-of-way must mimic that of the surrounding light posts, and that if an applicant submits an application not conforming to that requirement, the 90-day shot clock would stop until such time as a revised application did conform. The Chair felt momentum behind these installations will not support multiple refinement cycles as some other projects have encountered in the past.
 - The proposed changes to the Land Development Code will be going before the City Council on July 23 and City staff has already proposed in its February 2019 WCF Guidelines criteria which are similar to those established by the City of Denver, Colorado. There will be some limited safety net for areas of already-established historical resources, but that updating the community plan to protect other areas will take years. Protection for potential historic districts needs to be integrated into the code when the City Council acts on July 23rd.
- Norma Clark remarked the City of Denver's available guidelines may be useful in this effort, and also underscored the importance of aggressive community outreach to publicize any efforts made or decisions regarding KTPG establishing design parameters. The Chair concurred and confirmed the importance of using all available means to alert the Kensington and Talmadge communities, and also the immediate engagement of KTPG's Historic Review Board, as time is very limited and timing is critical.

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (cont'd)

- Don Taylor moved **the Chair send a letter on behalf of KTPG to Councilmember Gómez (and to all City Councilmembers by distribution through Council President Gómez), the Mayor's office, and Development Services Department, as represented by Karen Lynch, supporting the above-stated description of this Action Item.** Deborah Sharpe seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously, with eight votes in favor.**

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

- **Transportation** – Chair: Ken Horsley
 - No report
- **Monroe Avenue Transportation Corridor** – Chair: Brian Helmich
 - No quorum / No actions taken
 - Will be meeting again this month, June 24
- **Project Review** – Interim Chair: Don Taylor
 - No report
- **CIP & Planning** – Chair: Deborah Sharpe
 - Reviewed and discussed results of the 10-day Nextdoor community outreach effort to identify community opinion on CIP project prioritization. 25 responses and comments were received, evenly split between Kensington and Talmadge residents.
 - These five highest-priority CIP projects were identified:
 1. Euclid and Monroe Storm Drain (4400 and 4500 blocks of Euclid Avenue, and 4600 and 4800 blocks of Monroe Avenue); the subcommittee voted 5 in favor, 2 opposed.
 2. Street Light Circuit Upgrade, Kensington Heights (Hilldale north to Ridgeway Drive); the subcommittee voted 5 in favor, 2 opposed.
 3. Aldine Roadway Reconfiguration (east side, from Fairmount to Monroe to Euclid); the subcommittee voted six in favor, one opposed.
 4. Street Light Circuit Upgrade, Talmadge Park North (Alder Loop); the subcommittee voted 7 in favor, 0 opposed.
 5. Park in Talmadge (location to be determined); the subcommittee voted four in favor, three opposed.

SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (cont'd)

- Candidate item Montezuma Westbound to Fairmount Northbound Transition Lane Expansion was tied for most highly rated by the community response, but the subcommittee voted 5 in favor, two opposed to move the project to the sixth place in priority. Ken Horsley spoke to the importance of this item as very useful for alleviating existing substantial Monroe Avenue Transportation Corridor problems and felt this should be KTPG's first CIP priority. It is anticipated the College Area Community Planning Board will include the project on its list of priority projects, as the location is within that group's planning area. It is also anticipated that the street infrastructure work will be addressed as part of SDSU future expansion plans.
- Dan Heller inquired whether Aldine Roadway Reconfiguration would require acquisition of properties by eminent domain. Deborah Sharpe expressed confidence that, given the state of daily traffic, she expects any affected property owners would be willing to sell their parcels at fair market value. The chair confirmed KTPG does not intend to ever take anyone's home over their objection.
- Norma Clark expressed grave concerns about the high potential for unlawful misuse of any park within Talmadge, given recent reports of rising local crime and citywide Police Department challenges in staffing patrol officers above 60% of the number it has determined is necessary.
- Comments from the audience:
 - This seems like SANDAG projects Talmadge population to increase by 33% (4,000 people) between 2011 and 2030, based on existing zoning and redevelopment of existing residential units already built. Since 2011, the city has now enabled easier building of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), increased the density bonus for residential multifamily units from 135% of the zone to 175% of the zone, removed the requirement to provide parking in the transit priority area emanating from El Cajon Blvd. Given these circumstances, a 40% population increase during the same period may now be easily obtainable, with almost all of those individuals new to Talmadge residing in apartments. Once the Kensington street light circuit upgrades can be completed, hopefully KTPG can move Montezuma Transition Lane Expansion well up into its prioritized list to accommodate this anticipated growth and demand for roadways servicing the community's future new commuters.
 - A traffic circle at Euclid and Monroe may be very helpful to the top-prioritized Euclid and Monroe Storm Drain project. Chair suggested this be discussed further at the Monroe Avenue Transportation Corridor subcommittee meeting.
- Don Taylor moved **KTPG approve the above prioritized CIP project list as presented and the Chair send a letter of support to the College Area Community Planning Board in support of its prioritization of the Montezuma Westbound to Fairmount Northbound Transition Lane Expansion project.** Ken Horsley seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (cont'd)

- **Communications** – Chair: Brian Helmich
 - Elected Daniel Heller as Vice Chair
 - Deferred action on making a recommendation about supporting the proposal by San Diego Community News Network to link its publications' website(s) with the website of KTPG, pending input from City staff about whether that is an action KTPG is legally allowed to take.
 - Will be meeting again this month, June 24

- **Historic Review** – Vice Chair: Fred Lindahl
 - 5190 Canterbury Drive 92116 No HRB criterion met

- **Utility Undergrounding** – Chair: Don Taylor
 - No report

- **Kensington MADS** – Chair: Don Taylor
 - Kensington Manor MAD needs to meet. There is a surplus balance which the MAD board needs to make decisions about how to spend.
 - Talmadge Park North MAD: Don Taylor has contacted Council President Gómez's office to explore the possibility of finding additional funding for this MAD, because accumulating parcel-contributed funding is difficult in this MAD.

- **Bylaws** – Chair: Don Taylor
 - City staff have shared the Planning Department is enthusiastic about KTPG's efforts to be proactive on its efforts to update its bylaws.
 - City Staff substantial Policy 600-24 changes may be coming and did not offer guidance whether KTPG should proceed or hold on independently updating its own bylaws.

V. ADDED AGENDA ITEM

○ Informational Item – California Senate Bill 330

- Summary of SB330:
 - Requires timely, streamlined processing of housing permits that are allowed under existing zoning;
 - Prevents downzoning unless the local government simultaneously upzones to achieve “no net loss” in zoned capacity;
 - Suspends housing moratoriums and growth control measures including population caps on annual housing permits;
 - Lifts require parking minimums ¼ mile from transit in urban cities, and limit parking minimums to 0.5 spaces per unit elsewhere;
 - Postpones requirements for voter approval of zoning and general plan changes
 - Provides for resettlement benefits and opportunity for rehousing to prevent displacement of Section 8, rent controlled, or low-income tenants; and
 - Sunsets in 5 years.
- Deborah Sharpe reported this was discussed at the CPC and the general feeling was that community planning groups should oppose SB 300 because it takes local land use decision-making control away from duly authorized elected and appointed local land use decision-making bodies. The Chair shares this concern, and its similarity on this point to SB50, which KTPG has previously voted to oppose.
- Fred Lindahl voiced encouragement about the 5-year sunset period, but expressed greater concern about how much damage could be done to communities like Kensington and Talmadge during an operative period of five years.
- Ari Isaak sees SB330 as an item that would help San Diego achieve its Climate Action Plan goals, and that local control of land use within their local areas has contributed to creating a housing crisis.
- Brian Helmich voiced concern about SB330’s permissive approach to persistence of in lieu fees and that if SB330 is meant to meaningfully address a housing crisis, the units should simply be built, and municipal governments should not be accumulating funding as an acceptable alternative.

VI. KTPG LIAISON REPORTS

- **Community Planners Committee** – Deborah Sharpe
 - City Auditors Report was completed in April. CPC’s Chair Wally Wulfeck expressed strong concern about efforts to greatly limit the role of and voice of Community Planning Groups in providing a meaningful voice for communities in the planning process and create a Citizen’s Committee as some form of substitute. Comments are invited, for assembly by Wulfeck at srpgchair@scrippsranh.org. Fred Lindahl noted that Auditor’s Report criticisms are made of resident-comprised community planning groups, each of which is overseen by professional City staff; accordingly accountability for noncompliant findings observed by auditors most appropriately belongs with the City staff professionals who are tasked as part of their job duties with providing appropriate oversight precisely to ensure community planning group compliance is continuously maintained.

- **Talmadge Maintenance Assessment District** – Fred Lindahl
 - Voted to authorize funds for decorative signposts for the 49th and Adams Traffic Circle Splitter Islands project, consistent with the aesthetics of the surrounding community.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.

APPENDIX A



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT GEORGETTE GÓMEZ
NINTH DISTRICT**

Statement from Council President Georgette Gómez on the City Council's vote earlier today to approve the City of San Diego Fiscal Year 2020 Budget:

"Today, the City Council stood strong for our historically underserved communities. My colleagues and I made tough choices regarding the upcoming Fiscal Year 2020 Budget. Throughout the course of the budget hearings, residents have shared their priorities with us, and we have worked to the best of our ability to ensure their priorities are met. A budget is a reflection of who we are as a City and the Council chose today to invest in a more equitable, inclusive, transparent, and accountable local government.

To the FY 2020 Budget approved by the City Council today, I proudly added:

- Funding to facilitate repairs to the pool at the City Heights Recreation Center.
- 2 code enforcement officers to further address neighborhood nuisances in underserved communities in a timely manner.
- Translation services for community planning groups so that residents who either do not speak English or do not speak English well are able to fully participate in the decisions that affect them and their families.
- 1 arborist/horticulturalist to continue implementing the Urban Forestry Five-Year Plan and the Climate Action Plan, to ensure healthy trees in every council district, and to help with the installation of new street trees.
- Support for responding to Get It Done requests. The application has been successful at increasing accessibility for residents to easily report City issues, which has led to an increase of workload for City staff. This additional staffing supports effective responses to requests.
- 2 park rangers to improve resident experiences at our park facilities including in downtown and at Chollas Lake.
- Funding to measure bicycle, pedestrian, and transit mode share in transit priority areas in order to track the 2020 and 2035 Climate Action Plan goals. This cost includes relatively low-cost bike/pedestrian counters and a travel survey.
- Funding for the Citizen's Review Board to be used for outside legal consulting services.
- 2 positions in Council Administration to improve Council office communications with residents and to advocate for the Council's shared priorities at the state and federal levels.
- Increasing support to the San Diego Housing Commission's homeless outreach, rehousing, and other services by an additional three positions."

*[End of Appendix A]
[Appendix B follows on next page]*

APPENDIX B



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT GEORGETTE GÓMEZ

NINTH DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 5, 2019

TO: Honorable Mayor Kevin Faulconer

FROM: Council President Georgette Gómez, District 9 

SUBJECT: Ensuring Community Input and Preserving the Character of our Communities in the Future Installation of Wireless Communication Facilities (WCF)

A number of communities in District Nine have expressed serious concerns in relation the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Third Report In Order which has triggered proposed WCF regulations. The community, in response, have been vocal about the potential impact these new regulations may have on the unique historic and aesthetic characteristics of their neighborhoods. I am bringing these concerns to your attention in order to advocate for a coordinated approach to updating the WCF regulations. Above all, it is my priority that the character of our communities is preserved in any regulation updates.

Updates to regulations such as these need to be done with input from the communities that are directly impacted by these proposed regulations. While I understand the amended regulations are required to be compliant with recent State and Federal laws, the City should be proactive in communicating with its residents on these matters.

As such, I am writing in strong support of City staff working closely with the community to accommodate input from residents in relation to the proposed WCF regulations. It is imperative that the City include our residents in the process of updating these regulations, and I respectfully request that staff maximize public outreach to incorporate community feedback.

CC: Kris Michell, Chief Operating Officer
Erik Caldwell, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Jessica Lawrence, Director of Finance Policy & Council Affairs, Office of the Mayor

Eric Young II, Community Representative, Office of the Mayor

Elyse Lowe, Director, Development Services Department

Karen Lynch, Development Project Manager III, Development Services Department

Simon Tse, Development Project Manager II, Development Services Department

[End of Appendix B]